

In the Specification:

Amend the final paragraph on page 3 to read as follows:

-- The invention is not restricted to the depicted and described practical example, but it also embraces all variants that are equivalent according to the invention. This means that in principle almost any individual feature of the claims can be omitted and replaced by at least one individual feature disclosed elsewhere in the application. --

In the Claims:

Amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) Adhesive tape which is free from chemical binding agents and can be wound onto itself without use of a special covering or treatment and unwound easily ready for use, comprising:

a tape-like textile support (1);

consisting at least partially of a needle punched nonwoven which is fabricated of at least a first fiber material and a second fiber material both produced from at least partially thermoplastic fibers;

in which said thermoplastic fibers are at least partially bonded to each other on the side opposite the adhesive coating by melting at a certain temperature,

and a pressure sensitive adhesive coating (2) applied to the tape-like textile support (1);

said at least two fiber materials having different melting points,

whereby the melting point of said first fiber material is not less than 150°C and lower than said temperature of melting;